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MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy Director for Administration
Deputy Director for Operations
Deputy Director for Science and Technology
Director, National Foreign Assessment Center
Administrative Officer/DCI

FROM : John F. Blake
Acting Deputy Director of
Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Temporary Overstrength Authorization (C)

1.(C) The on-duty strength of the Agency is now below the authorized FY 1978 ceiling. This posture is expected to continue through the rest of the year, more or less in parallel with the rate the Operations Directorate decreases in strength.

2.(C) The Collection Tasking Staff (CTS) has requirements for new positions in FY 1978 and other components have been authorized increases in FY 1979. By careful management and close monitoring, we should be able to meet FY 1978 requirements and gradually build toward meeting FY 1979 authorizations while still remaining within our current ceiling.

3.(S) As of 29 January, the CTS has four on board against the temporary authorization of 20 granted in the absence of ceiling. NFAC (adjusted to include the NIO's) is 11 overstrength and the Agency as a whole, even taking into account these overstrength situations, is 29 below the overall ceiling. Under these conditions NFAC, accordingly, is granted temporary authorization to exceed its FY 1978 ceiling by up to 20.

4.(C) Other directorates, except the Operations Directorate, are understrength. If those who are understrength choose to hold existing positions vacant and recruit from within the Agency or outside against FY 1979 requirements, they are authorized to do so as long as they do not exceed their FY 1978 ceilings and as long as the overall Agency ceiling is not exceeded. We will monitor component and Agency strength month by month and, if necessary, restrain new hires in selected components to ensure that our ceiling is not exceeded, even compensating for the temporary overstrength authorizations.

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John F. Blake

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cc: Director of Personnel